

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7, 10 and 12 have been amended.

In the Office Action under reply, claims 1-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saito et al. ("Saito") (US Patent No. 6,523,696) in view of Yamamoto et al. ("Yamamoto") (US Patent No. 6,166,778). With respect to Applicants' claims, as amended, these rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants' independent claim 1 has been amended to better define Applicants' invention. More particularly, amended claim 1 recites a control device for remotely controlling a controlled device, comprising: a display unit that displays a control panel used to control the controlled device, the control panel including a cursor that can shift among button elements; a control unit that produces operation information; and a communication unit that sends the operation information to the controlled device, wherein the operation information includes identification information corresponding to a shifting history of the cursor, and a code corresponding to depression, and wherein the shifting history of the cursor includes identification information of button elements selected by the cursor. Independent method claim 5, directed to a controlled device controlled remotely by a control device, has been similarly amended. Such a construction is not taught or suggested by the cited art of record.

Applicants' control device of the present invention, as recited in amended claim 1, is arranged to produce operation information, which is sent to the controlled device, that includes identification information that corresponds to a shifting history of a cursor included in a control panel, and a code corresponding to depression, wherein the shifting history of the cursor includes identification information of button elements selected by the cursor. Support for the

amendments to claims 1 and 5 can be found, for example, from page 29, line 9 to page 37, line 11 of the specification as originally filed. As discussed in this section of the specification and shown in the various figures, a cursor is provided on the control panel wherein Fig. 12 shows as an example a cursor 720 (represented by the hi-lited outline of “button element” 707) over button element 707. As described, a history of the movement of cursor 720 is maintained. In one example described in the specification, the cursor has moved over button element 702, button element 703, button element 707 and button element 706 (e.g., see page 31, lines 5-11 of the specification). Hence, the “shifting history” of the cursor is 706, 707, 703 and 702. As recited in Applicants’ claim 1, the cursor can shift among button elements, and the operation information (which is sent to the controlled device) includes identification information corresponding to the shifting history of the cursor, and a code corresponding to depression, and also wherein the shifting history of the cursor includes identification information of button elements selected by the cursor. These features of Applicants’ claimed invention are neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited art.

In the Office Action, the Examiner states that Saito fails to disclose “operation information [that] includes a shifting history of a cursor displayed on the control panel and wherein the shifting history includes identification information of buttons depressed by the cursor in a single operation, and wherein the shifting history includes identification information of buttons released by the cursor in a single operation.” (Office Action, page 4, lines 18-22). Similarly, Saito does not disclose the features now recited in claim 1 of “the operation information [including] identification information corresponding to a shifting history of the

cursor , and a code corresponding to depression, and wherein the shifting history of the cursor includes identification information of button elements selected by the cursor.”

In the Office Action, the Examiner refers to Figs. 4(a)-4(c) of Yamamoto for disclosing a user entering, on a display screen, three buttons for a desired channel, and that “control data including each button information identifying each button (number) is only sent after the third button is entered by the user.” (Office Action, page 5, lines 1-12; also discussed in Office Action on pages 2-3, paragraph nos. 3-5). Regardless of whether Yamamoto discloses features previously recited in Applicants’ claim 1, Yamamoto clearly does not disclose the above-cited features now presented in claim 1, namely, that the operation information includes identification information corresponding to the shifting history of the cursor included in the control panel, wherein the shifting history includes identification information of button elements selected by the cursor. Instead, Yamamoto discloses the inputting of a channel number (e.g., channel 438) by depressing and releasing numeric buttons. Yamamoto is silent with respect to Applicants’ claimed shifting history of a cursor included in the control panel. Yamamoto also is silent with respect to Applicants’ claimed identification information of button elements selected by the cursor.

Therefore, neither Saito nor Yamamoto discloses the above-described features of Applicants’ independent claim 1. Hence, Applicants’ amended independent claim 1, and amended independent claim 5 since it discloses such features in one form or another, and their respective dependent claims, thus patentably distinguish over the combination of Saito and Yamamoto.

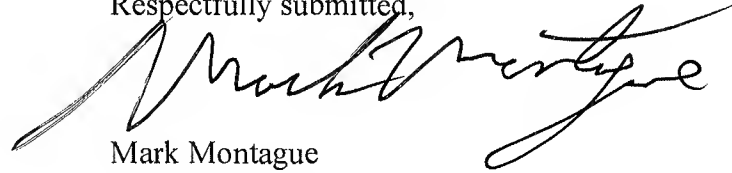
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In view of the above, it is submitted that Applicants' claims, as amended, patentably distinguish over the cited art of record. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of the application and claims is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Montague", written in a cursive style.

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